

20 May 1965

Mr. Virgil L. Barr, Chief
Division of International Activities
Bureau of Mines
U. S. Department of the Interior
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Barr:

I have your letter of 13 May and regret, too, that you were not able to make our budget/production meeting on 29 April.

At that time we pointed out that the [redacted] budgeted for FY66 would, even with the Arabian Peninsula accepted as bringing the scheduled new sections to an equivalent of 15, again represent a unit cost considerably higher than the average for the NIS. We were aware of the fact that, since the FY66 amount is the FY65 total (after upward adjustment for the pay act) plus allowance for normal promotions and in-grades, we were providing more for 15 sections in FY66 than we did for 16 new sections scheduled for this current fiscal year.

25X1A9a We were willing to do this under tight budget circumstances in view of professional staffing considerations cited for Mines. It also appeared possible that, while Mr. [redacted] stressed this would not be easy, economies in reproduction methods and otherwise might be effected.

I trust this will clarify the basis for understanding that [redacted] to Bureau of Mines for NIS work in FY66 will be for the scheduled production of the 15 equivalent new sections, including the Iraq unit called for by the FY66 production schedule which has been approved by the United States Intelligence Board. Presumably also to be anticipated is delivery of carry-overs accruing from the Minerals Yearbook diversion after your staff had so constructively got this problem in hand.

I do not need to tell you that we continue to attach much importance to the Bureau of Mines contribution to the National Intelligence Survey Program.

Sincerely,

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1 - AO budget file
1 - Interior (OAD file)
1 - xtra
1 - chrono

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[redacted]
Assistant Director
Basic Intelligence